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Board of Supervisors

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February 3, 2012

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM:  Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.  
Director

SUBJECT: **STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF  
AMBULANCE ORDINANCE**

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.  
Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.  
Chief Medical Officer

John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D.  
Chief Deputy Director

This is to provide you with an update regarding the status of the implementation of the revisions to the Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 7.16, Ambulances (Ambulance Ordinance), which was approved by your Board on June 28, 2011. These changes became effective on July 28, 2011 and include the requirement for all ambulance companies operating in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County to be licensed by the EMS Agency. Since a critical date in the time-line was January 30, 2012, this update may help you with any inquiries you receive from the ambulance companies.

Ambulance companies that were in operation at the time the Ambulance Ordinance became effective were given 6 months (until January 30, 2012) to submit their applications for licensure. Provided their application was received within the specified timeframe, these "existing" ambulance companies may continue to operate until their application for a business license is approved or denied by the Ambulance Licensing Hearing Board.

As of this date, the status of the "existing" ambulance companies is as follows:

- 25 companies are currently licensed
- 36 companies have submitted applications
- 6 companies have not submitted applications

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Each Health Deputy  
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There were also 10 "existing" companies that submitted applications on January 30, 2012 that were rejected due to missing information, or an incorrect fee amount submitted.

These applicants have been given an additional 15 calendar days to make the necessary corrections and they may continue to operate pending this resubmission.

Additionally, since the implementation of the revised Ambulance Ordinance, there have been 4 new ambulance companies started in Los Angeles County. Although 3 of the 4 companies have submitted an application for a business license, as "new" ambulance operators, the Ambulance Ordinance does not allow them to begin operations in the County until they receive an ambulance operator business license from the EMS Agency.

The 6 "existing" unlicensed ambulance companies (see attached) that did not submit an application by the January 30, 2012 application submission deadline, will be receiving notification that they must "cease and desist" all further operations in Los Angeles County until a business license issued by the EMS Agency is obtained. Following this notification and our due diligence, the EMS Agency will begin imposing administrative fines in the amount of \$5,000.00 per occurrence, to any company that continues to operate in the County as specified in the Ambulance Ordinance. In addition to this fine, an ambulance company operating without a business license may also be charged with a misdemeanor, which will be issued in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office. These fines and misdemeanor charges are also applicable to any "new" company that continues or begins to operate in the County following notification of the Ambulance Ordinance requirements by the EMS Agency.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Chidester, EMS Agency Director, at 562-347-1604.

MHK:CC:lu  
01-61a

Attachment

- c. Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Health Deputies

# AMBULANCE COMPANIES THAT DID NOT SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

| SERVICE NAME:                                    | NAME AS DISPLAYED / DBA:                    | SERVICE ADDRESS               |                  |          |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------|
|                                                  |                                             | STREET ADDRESS                | CITY             | ZIP CODE |
| HUNTINGTON AMBULANCE, LLC                        | HUNTINGTON AMBULANCE                        | 17050 Bluewater Lane          | Huntington Beach | 92649    |
| MERCURY AMBULANCE SERVICE, LLC                   | MERCURY AMBULANCE SERVICE                   | 2675 Junipero Ave. # 100      | Signal Hill      | 90755    |
| SACRED HEART AMBULANCE CORP.                     | SACRED HEART AMBULANCE                      | 1305 W. Arrow Hwy. Suite 204  | San Dimas        | 91702    |
| SHORELINE AMBULANCE CORPORATION                  | SHORELINE AMBULANCE CORPORATION             | 17762 Metzler Lane            | Huntington Beach | 92647    |
| SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, LLC | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION SERVICES | 215 West Pomona Blvd. Ste 101 | Monterey Park    | 91754    |
| TRINITY THREE COMPANY, LLC                       | TRINITY THREE AMBULANCE                     | 8930 S. Western Ave.          | Los Angeles      | 90047    |